



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/602,333	06/24/2003	Robert W. Rush	070221-9012-01	2035
23409	7590	05/16/2005	EXAMINER	
MICHAEL BEST & FRIEDRICH, LLP			KOVACS, ARPAD F	
100 E WISCONSIN AVENUE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202			3671	

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/602,333	RUSH, ROBERT W.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Árpád Fábián Kovács	3671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 19-27 and 45-102 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 19-27 and 45-51 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 52-102 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/28/2005.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. New claims 52-59, 66-73, 81-89, 93-94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stoll (DE 2708177, cited by applicant).

It is noted that references are made to the English translation.

Claims 52, 68, 83, 93:

Stoll discloses a pneumatic unit having an electrically operated compressor as an integral component, or an air transfer device (electrical) in the second chamber of the housing (page 3), cylinders comprising piston & rod (fig 15) extending through the first chamber and **at least partially** extending outside of the housing;

On page 4, it is taught that there is no compressed air supplied from external line, thus the air mass is **substantially fixed**;

Claims 53-54, 57, 69, 85, 93:

The passageway between chambers is located in the housing, i.e. integral as taught on page 3, thus inherently includes inlet / outlet

Claims 55-56, 70-71, 86-87, 93:

A valve (13; noted that more than one, multi-way valves can be utilized as taught on page 3-4) for use with the passageway, as taught it can be two-way or five-way valve; the valve inherently equalizes pressure by transferring air from one of the chamber to the other which actuates the cylinder piston rod and device;

Claims 58-59, 72-73, 88-89, 93:

As taught on page 3 & 4, the valve comprises an electrical solenoid valve (supplied by 220 V), inherently having a switch;

Claims 66-67, 81-82:

Air compressor or pump (12);

Claims 68, 93:

As taught on page 4, an object / device / lever coupled or driven by the piston rod;

Claims 84, 94:

Inherently the pressure differential in the housing, air pressure in the first chamber is greater than in the second chamber;

3. New claims 52-75, 81-97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stoll (CH 438956, cited by applicant).

Prior art in similar manner teaches a compact & closed system (page 4), structural parts are piston & rod (4, 6), electrical valve (7), compressor (2), passageway (9b);

In re claims 60-65, 74-75, 90-92, 95-97:

In addition, also provides for triggering mechanism, switch or pneumatically (i.e. due to the piston rod compressing air in the first chamber) as taught on page 5.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 76-80, 98-102 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stoll (DE 2708177 & CH 438956, cited by applicant), in view of Trefz (6543560). Stoll discloses the claimed invention except for specifying that the self contained actuator could be used for a mower, such pulley brake or other elements controlled either hydraulically or manually, such as cut height adjustment.

Trefz discloses a clutch pulley brake assembly utilizing an actuator.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the self contained actuator in any application requiring adjustment or control, such as the one exemplified by Trefz, in order to take advantage of the compactness of Stoll's device and make it inexpensive and less complicated (page 1, last paragraph & continuing on page 2 of DE 2708177).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 52-102 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Applicant's submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c) with the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) on 2/28/2005 prompted the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 609(B)(2)(i). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Árpád Fábián Kovács whose telephone number is 571 272 6990. The examiner can normally be reached on Mo-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas B. Will can be reached on 571 272 6998. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Árpád Fábián Kovács
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3671

ÁFK